REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed April 18, 2005. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 2, 4 - 9, 22 - 25, 27 - 28 and 32 - 37 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action indicates that claims 2, 4-9, 20-25, 27, 28 and 32-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Chen*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

In this regard, Applicants submit herewith a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 indicating that the invention was conceived prior to the critical date of *Chen*. In particular, the critical date of *Chen* is March 7, 2001 (the U.S. filing date), because Taiwan is not a signatory to the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Since Taiwan is not a member state, *Chen* is not entitled to claim benefit of priority to the earlier filed Taiwanese application. The Declaration also shows that Applicants exercised diligence through the constructive reduction to practice of the invention. That is, the Applicants exercised diligence through the filing date of the application. Applicants respectfully assert that such showing renders the use of *Chen* inapplicable for rejecting the pending claims and respectfully request that the rejection be removed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the claims be placed in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action indicates that claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chen* in view of *Os*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that the use of *Chen* is improper for rejecting the pending claims as set forth above. Further, *Os* is legally deficient for the purpose of remedying the deficiencies of *Chen*. That is, *Os* does not teach or reasonably suggest the limitations asserted in the Office Action as being taught by *Chen*. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be removed and that the claims be placed in condition for allowance.

Art Made of Record

The art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Applicant

(770) 933-9500

IP Administration Legal Department, M/S 35 Hewlett-Packard Company P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

Stephanie Kiley

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Prior solutions focus on the scanning software, and require the user to make the correct decisions for their particular tasks, without a clear view of what they can do with their scanner.

3. Problems solved by the invention.

The scanning task launcher focuses on the customers' scanning tasks. Customers only need to identify their intent, such as faxing or e-mailing, and the technology takes care of the rest. Also, the scanning task launcher creates awareness of what users can do with their scanner, improves access and reduces the time it takes to complete a task.

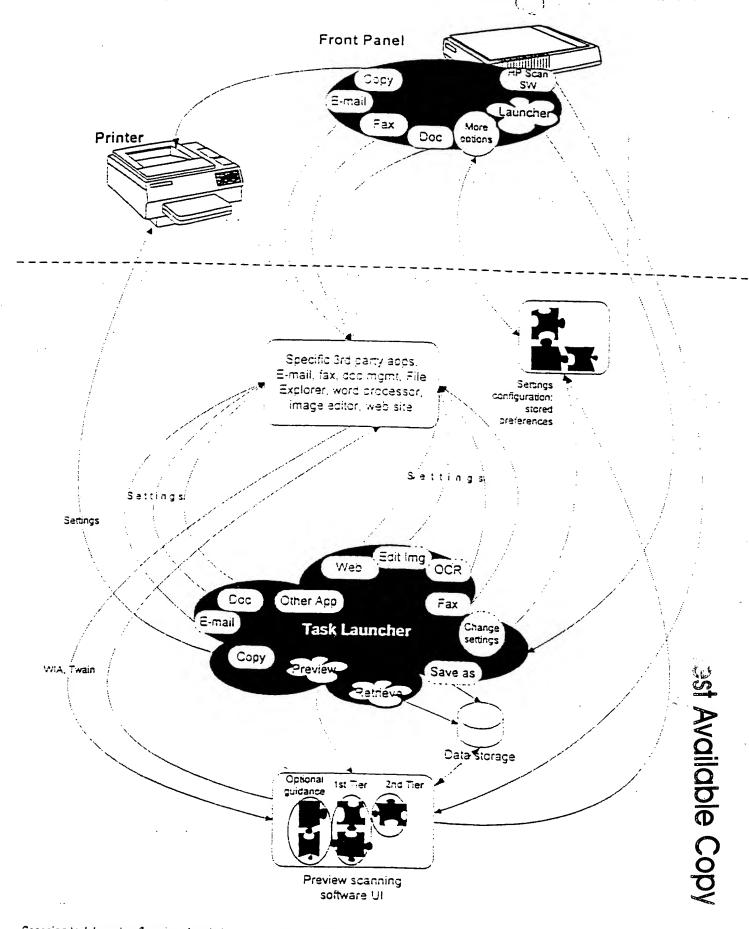
C. Advantages of the invention over what has been done before.

All scanning tasks are accessible to the customer in one place. The task launcher manages the details of the task, and launches the scanning software in a mode that supports the specific task. In the scanning software, all scan settings are optimized for the task.

D. Description of the construction and operation of the invention (include appropriate schematic, block, & timing diagrams; drawings; samples; graphs; flowcharts; computer listings; test results; etc.)

See attached flow chart and conceptual drawing.

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Scanning task launcher flowchart in relation to scanning solution





Conceptual Drawing

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